

Pines police officer honored

An Ocean Pines police officer received special recognition after going above the call of duty.

American Legion, Synepuxent Post #166, has honored Pfc. David Richardson as its Law Enforcement Officer of the Year.

The award, which especially takes into account heroic acts, is presented annually and celebrates officers who exceed their duty requirements and demonstrate a distinct pattern of community engagement.

Pfc. Richardson is also the recipient of a Silver Star Award for 2017.

The award stems from his handling of a domestic complaint. According to the incident report, a suspect was identified as having assaulted several



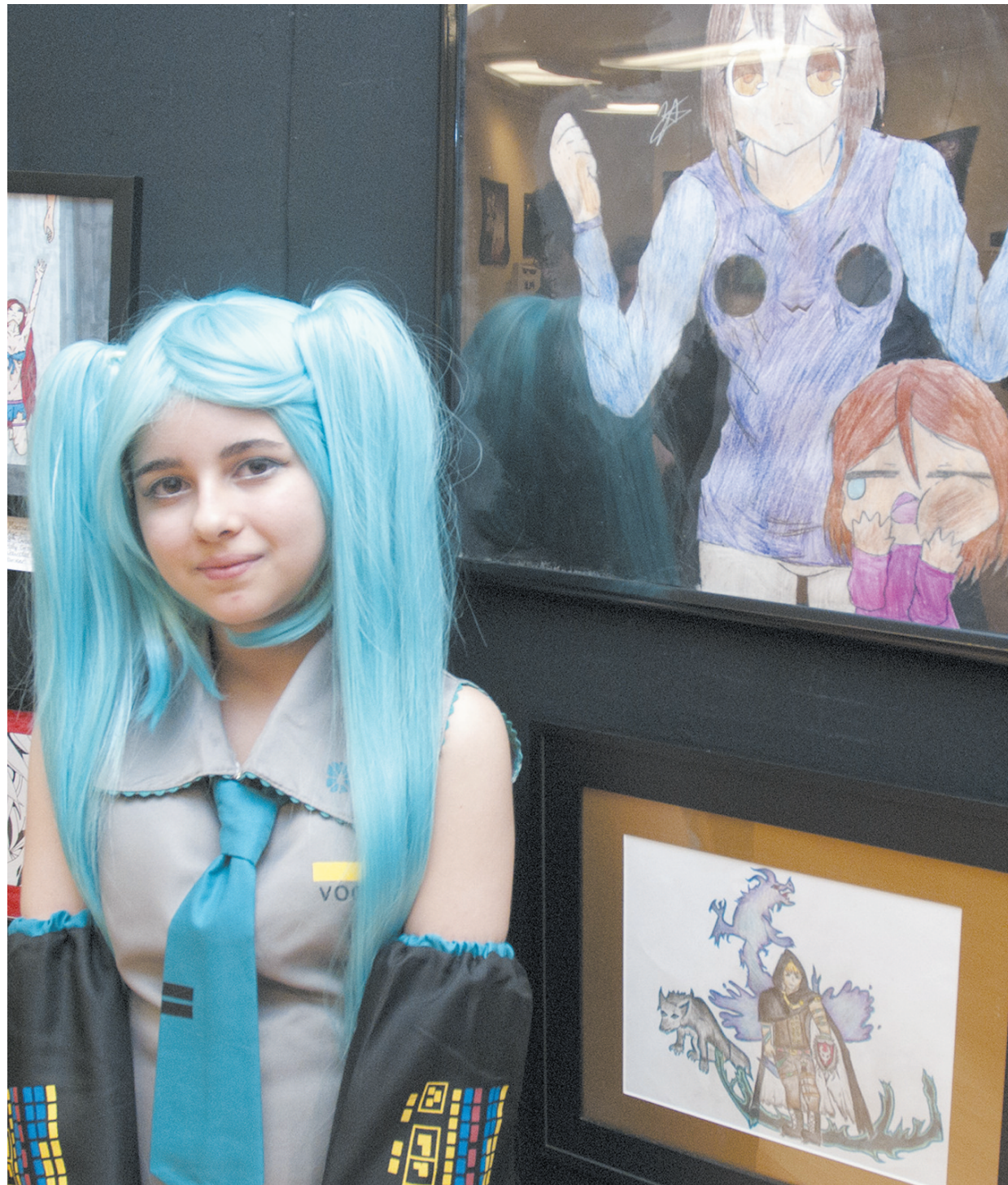
David Richardson

individuals with a knife. The suspect, who had barricaded himself inside a residence, was seen by Pfc. Richardson holding a knife and refusing to cooperate with police.

Units of the Maryland State Police and Worcester County Sheriff's Office responded to assist at the scene. While Ocean Pines Police Chief Dave Massey was engaged in verbal conversation with the suspect, Pfc. Richardson and other units made forcible entry into the home.

Pfc. Richardson tackled the armed suspect and was able to take the knife away. The suspect was then taken into custody, uninjured, and charged with First Degree Assault. For risking his life, and not resorting to deadly force, Pfc. Richardson was awarded the department's highest honor.

"Pfc. Richardson is a wonderful example of the courageous police officers in our department," said Chief Dave Massey. "He never complains and please see **officer** page 15



Display - The First Friday art opening on April 6 at the Ocean City Center for the Arts included the presentation of awards for the annual juried Corporate Partner Show and for the annual Anime/Manga student art show with cosplay costuming.

Above: **Zara Puig-Lugo**, age 13, of Stephen Decatur Middle School, participated in both the Anime/Manga Student Art Show and the cosplay during First Friday at the Ocean City Center for the Arts.

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Community Calendar

APRIL



Bob Dylan program slated for library discussion

One of the most influential singer-songwriters of the past 60 years, Bob Dylan will be the subject of a discussion on Monday, April 30, at the Ocean Pines branch of the Worcester County Library. The presentation begins at 2 p.m. in the library's main meeting room.

"Bob Dylan Revisited" will focus on the artist's groundbreaking work of the 1960s, transitioning from a traditional folk musician inspired by Woody Guthrie to the controversial pioneer of electric folk rock. Dylan's reluctance to be categorized or to be known for anything other than his music has only added to his mystique. Dylan made headlines in 2016 when it was announced that he would be the first musician honored with a Nobel Prize in Literature.



Staff members Frank DeLucco and Harry Burkett will facilitate the event.

"Dylan is a man of contradictions," said Burkett. "The man credited with some of the greatest protest anthems of the Vietnam era rarely attended a rally. He's a performer who often seems distant from his audiences, but refuses to stop performing. The man behind the music is even more fascinating than the music itself."

DeLucco emphasized the Dylan program is not a lecture, but a genuine give-and-take of ideas. "We certainly hope that some diehard Dylan fans attend the program because we're anxious to hear the opinions of others," he said. "Like all poets, Dylan is the subject of endless debate."

For more information, call the Ocean Pines library at 410-208-4014.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 <small>Easter</small>	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 <small>Earth Day</small>	18	19	20	21
22 <small>Earth Day</small>	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Duck race tickets now available

Time for the ducks! Kiwanis begins its "Duck Race" season by selling \$5 entries for the August 24 race to benefit Kiwanis Children's programs like scholarships and student leadership clubs in local schools. Through race time. Top prize will be \$3000 if all 1,200 ducks are sold. The race will again be held at Frontier Town Lazy River on Rte. 611. Winner does not have to be present to win. Call 410-973-1233 for tickets. Tickets will also be available for sale at events throughout Ocean Pines including "Summer Concerts in the Park" and the Ocean Pines 50th Anniversary events.

Monday

Ocean Pines Poker Club
Poker players wanted in Ocean Pines area for Monday evenings. Call 410-208-1928.

Sweet Adelines

The Delmarva Sweet Adeline Chorus meets from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Ocean Pines Community Center. Call 410-641-6876.

Monday/Tuesday

Sanctioned Duplicate Bridge
Open bridge games Monday at 12 p.m., Tuesday at 10 a.m. at OP Community Center. Call Mary Stover 410-726-1795.

Tuesday

Families Anonymous
From 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at room 37 in the the Community Church at Ocean Pines on Rte. 589. For more information call Carol at 410-208-4515.

Tuesday/Thursday

Poker Players wanted for Gentlemen's Poker in North Gate area Ocean Pines. Game played every Tuesday & Thursday evening 5:45 p.m. to 10:45 p.m. on Pinehurst Rd. Ocean Pines. Call 410-208-0063 for more information.

Wednesday

Kiwanis Club Meeting
Weekly meetings at 8 a.m. on Wednesdays in the Ocean Pines Community Center. Doors open 7 a.m.

Elks Bingo

Ocean City Elks in Ocean City (behind Fenwick Inn) open at 5:30 p.m. Early birds at 6:30 and bingo at 7 p.m. Call 410-250-2645.

Rotary Club

Ocean City/Berlin Rotary Club meetings are held at 5:45 p.m. at the Captains Table in Ocean City. Contact Stan.Kahn@carouselhotel.com.

Square Dancing

The Pinesteppers have introduction to square dancing at the OP Community Center at 7 p.m. Call Bruce Barrett at 410-208-6777.

AL-Anon/OP-West OC-Berlin

Wednesday Night Bayside Beginnings Al-Anon family meetings are held at the Ocean Pines Community Center at 7:30 p.m.

Thursday

Story Time
Stories, music and crafts at 10:30 a.m. for children ages 3-5 at Ocean Pines library. Call 410-208-4014.

Beach Singles

Beach Singles 45 for Happy Hour at Harpoon Hanna's at 4 p.m. Call Arlene at 302-436-9577 or Kate at 410-524-0649 for more activities. BeachSingles.org.

Legion Bingo

American Legion in Ocean City opens doors at 5:30 p.m., games begin at 7. For information call 410-289-3166.

Gamblers Anonymous

Group meets at 8 p.m. at the Atlantic Club, 11827 Ocean Gateway, West Ocean City. Call 888-424-3577 for help.

Friday

Knights of Columbus Bingo
Bingo will be held behind St. Luke's Church, 100th St. in Ocean City. Doors open at 5 p.m. and games begin at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments available. Call 410-524-7994.

First Saturday

Creative Writing Forum
Every first Saturday of the month at 10 a.m. at the Berlin Library. Novice and established writers gather to share their fiction, non-fiction, and creative writing projects. Program includes critiques and appreciation, market leads, and writing exercises.

Pines election process begins

Ocean Pines Association, which oversees the largest residential community in Worcester County, announced last week the election schedule for this year.

"For anyone interested in public service, the Ocean Pines Board of Directors is the avenue in which you can make a difference," said Denise Sawyer, director of Marketing and Public Relations for the Ocean Pines Association. "Property owners who are passionate about Ocean Pines and its progress are encouraged to run for election."

The candidate information meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 26 at 7 p.m. in the East Room of the Ocean Pines Community Center.

The meeting will outline the responsibilities of board members, describe the qualifications of the candidates, and receive input from attendees about finding interested candidates.

Important dates for this year's election cycle include the following:

- Thursday, May 10 – Application deadline for candidates
- Friday, June 8 - Candidates will draw for position on the ballot, 11 a.m. at the Ocean Pines Administration Building, Board Room
- Wednesday, June 20 – Candi-

dates' Forum, 7 p.m. at the Ocean Pines Community Center

-Tuesday, July 3 - Cutoff for Ocean Pines voter eligibility

-Tuesday, July 10 - Ballots are mailed

-Saturday, July 14 - Possible second candidates' Forum, 10 a.m. at the Ocean Pines Community Center (*If deemed necessary by Elections Committee*)

-Wednesday, August 8 - Deadline for ballot receipt

-Friday, August 10 - Ballots counted and announced

-Saturday, August 11 - Annual Meeting/Validation of election results, 10 a.m. at the Ocean Pines Community Center, Assateague Room.

Casino trip planned

The public invited to join members of the Ocean Pines Boat Club on their Thursday, April 19 bus trip to the Harrington Casino. The cost is \$20 per person which includes \$15 Slot Play and a \$7 food voucher good towards the lunch buffet. The luxury bus will leave from the Ocean Pines Yacht Club parking lot at 10 a.m. and return at about 5 p.m. Seating is limited to the first 56 reservations.

If interested, please contact Tom or Barbara Southwell at 410 / 641-5456.



Honor - A record one hundred-nine students were inducted into the Stephen Decatur High School chapter of the National Honor Society during the annual induction ceremony on April 4. To gain admittance, students must satisfy the four principles of character, scholarship, leadership, and service.

Inductees **Samantha Stephan** and **Ivy Stearn** emerge from the celebratory tunnel at the conclusion of the ceremony.

OPA to host town hall meeting

The Ocean Pines Board of Directors has announced that it will hold a town hall meeting on Thursday, April 19 at 7 p.m. in the Assateague Room at the Community Center.

Matt Ortt Companies, the newly hired restaurant development and management company, will present the public with an overview of current and future operations at the Yacht and Beach clubs. In addition, Ocean Pines Association President Doug Parks will deliver his remarks and Lerch, Early &

Brewer will report on collections.

The membership is encouraged to come with questions, concerns and ideas. Questions may be submitted in advance via email to info@ocean-pines.org.

Those unable to attend the meeting may view it live at www.OceanPines.org or on Mediacom channel 78. It also will be posted on the Ocean Pines website and will air on channel 78 afterward.

Club to discuss quantum mysteries and new technologies

“Quantum Spookiness, Communication and Computing” is a new club set to meet in the Ocean Pines library. Discussions will focus on the microscopic world of atoms, electrons, photons, as well as new technologies of ‘quantum cryptography’ and ‘quantum computing.’ The club is designed for anyone excited about the physics of the micro-world and revolutionary applications. The first three meetings take place on Thursday April 19, April 26 and May 3 between 12:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. in the library conference room, with later scheduling to be announced. For further information, please call Doug Hemmick at 410-641-8077.

Youth soccer programs begin in Ocean Pines

Young soccer players can begin spring season training with programs offered by the Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department starting in April. The six-week programs, for boys and girls ages two to 11, will be held at Somerset Park, located on Sloop Lane in Ocean Pines.

Happy Cleats Soccer will allow children ages 2-3 the chance to burn off energy in a non-competitive environment and will focus on socialization, simple soccer fundamentals and fun. The program will be offered weekly from 5:30-6 p.m. on Tuesdays beginning April 17 for two-year-olds and on Thursdays beginning April 19 for three-year-olds. The cost is \$40 for Ocean Pines residents and \$50 for non-residents.

Pee Wee Soccer, for ages four to six, will start with basic soccer skills and progress to lightly competitive group games. It will be offered on

Tuesdays from 6 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. beginning April 17. The cost is \$45 for Ocean Pines residents and \$55 for non-residents.

Little Kickers Soccer focuses more on game play and building on skills for ages 7-8. It will be held on Thursdays beginning April 19 from 6 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. The cost is \$45 for Ocean Pines residents and \$55 for non-residents.

Boys and girls ages nine to 11 will learn advanced drills and fine-tune their skills with Big Kickers Soccer. The program will be held on Tuesdays from 7 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. beginning April 17. The cost is \$55 for Ocean Pines residents and \$65 for non-residents.

These programs are open to the public and registration is required. For more information or to register, call the Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department at 410-641-7052. Information regarding additional recreational programs, including an online version of the Ocean Pines Activity Guide, is available at OceanPines.org.

OPA president issues statement regarding public meeting

Ocean Pines Association (OPA) President Doug Parks released last week a statement admitting that an advisory committee meeting did not adhere to the community’s guidelines for public meetings. In the statement Parks said that OPA director Cheryl Jacobs was responsible for the situation and that she apologizes for the action.

The statement read as follows:

In response to the recent meeting involving the Ocean Pines Clubs Advisory Committee and representatives from the Matt Ortt Companies (MOC), the Board of Directors acknowledges the meeting was not scheduled in accordance with Resolution C-01, which clearly states the requirements for scheduling a meeting and notifying the Membership. We regret this situation unfolded the way it did. Director Cheryl Jacobs takes responsibility for the confusion regarding how the meeting was handled, and offers her direct apology to those members who were asked to leave the meeting. As a follow-up the Board will address the proper protocol for all advisory committees with both the Board liaisons and committee chairpersons.

Talent auditions scheduled

The Launch II Performing Arts Benefit for Education committee will hold the first round of auditions for all ages on April 28 at Stephen Decatur High School from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

The search for talented performers is open to singers, dancers, comedians, thespians, musicians and other solo and group performers of all ages. Do you know someone with an exceptional voice who sings in your church? An uncle who is a gifted musician? Couples who are exceptional dance partners? A teacher who does an incredible impression of a former President? Encourage them to share their talents on stage, November 10 at the Ocean City Performing Arts Center.

The Launch II ~ Rhythm of the Tides is the Worcester County Education Foundation’s second annual Celebration of the Performing Arts and Education. Building upon last year’s popular event, the committee will hold the first audition in the northern part of the county (at SDHS) and a second audition Friday, May 4 at Snow Hill

please see auditions on page 15

The Courier

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2012 Business of the Year

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Stuttering affects more than 70 million people worldwide. According to the Stuttering Foundation, four times as many men than women will experience stuttering in their lifetimes. Despite its prevalence, stuttering often elicits embarrassment among its sufferers, who may be hesitant to speak in public



and/or shy away from social relationships. Understanding the causes of stuttering and recognizing that there are therapies available to treat stuttering can help people live fuller lives. Researchers continue to investigate and study stuttering, which is sometimes referred to as stammering. The Mayo Clinic says possible causes of developmental stuttering include abnormalities in speech motor control or damage to areas of the brain that control speech. Genetics also plays a role, as stuttering tends to run in families. Stuttering also may be linked to inherited genetic abnormalities. Physical trauma may lead to stuttering, and problems with fluency can occur when speakers become especially nervous or feel pressured to perform. Therapeutic treatments can help people overcome their stuttering, but such treatments are not an overnight fix. Still, many people make excellent fluency strides and can benefit from the help of a stuttering expert.

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School Safety bill signed into law

Governor Larry Hogan signed 114 bills into law at a signing ceremony at the Maryland State House in Annapolis. The signing followed the conclusion of the 2018 session of the Maryland General Assembly on Monday, April 9.

“Today is a great day for the people of Maryland. The success of our legislative session shows that, unlike the partisan gridlock we see in Washington, here in Annapolis, we work together in a common sense, bipartisan way to get things done,” said Governor Hogan. “I want to thank the legislature for joining with us to make our schools safer, protect our communities from violent crime, provide tax relief for hardworking Marylanders, ensure our citizens have access to health care, and create even more jobs.”

Among the bills signed into law were the Maryland Safe To Learn Act (SB 1265), a landmark school safety package that includes key provisions from Governor Hogan’s Safe Schools Act Of 2018, including increased funding for the Maryland Center for School Safety, the creation of aggressive statewide standards for school safety, requirements for the standardized training and certification for all school resource officers, and requirements for each school system to develop behavioral assessment teams to identify and provide interventions for students who may pose a threat to safety.

“No mom or dad should ever have to worry when they send their kids off to school whether their son or daughter is going to come home safely,” said Governor Hogan. “I want to thank legislators on both sides of the aisle for coming together and working with us to make our schools safer.”

The governor also signed Senate Bill 387 and House Bill 1782, which completed the successful bipartisan effort to stop health care costs from sky-

rocketing due to inaction by the federal government. Governor Hogan and the presiding officers signed the centerpiece of this health care initiative (HB 1795/SB 1267), which creates the structure for a reinsurance program to be administered by the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange, into law on April 5, 2018.

Additionally, the governor signed House Bill 96, legislation introduced by Speaker Busch and supported by the governor, to establish a tax credit for living organ donations, and House

Bill 427, a common sense measure to allow students to use and bring sunscreen to school, which the governor supported following his recent surgery to remove skin cancer cells.

“I want to thank our presiding officers and legislators on both sides of the aisle for their hard work over the past 90 days. This has been one of the most productive legislative sessions in the history of our state and a win for the people of Maryland,” said Governor Hogan.

Annual Pirate Party planned

Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services will host its tenth Annual Pirate Party fundraiser to benefit vulnerable children in Worcester County. The event will be held on Friday, May 18, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., at Sunset Grille in West Ocean City, (with a rain date of June 1). Attendees are encouraged to join in the fun by coming dressed in their best pirate garb. The pirate themed fundraiser is always a big hit with locals since it is the most unique kick-off party of the summer. A \$49 donation at the door includes a light fare buffet, two drink tickets, live entertainment, raffles, and a gift auction.

Each year nearly 20 people volunteer to be “Honorary Pirates” and raise at least \$500 each toward the fundraiser. A combination of pirate fundraising, corporate sponsors, raffles, and party entry donations makes this Worcester Youth and Family’s largest fundraiser of the year. All money raised is used to support youth programs managed by the organiza-

tion. Worcester Youth and Family’s CASA program helps abused and neglected children so that all children in our community can have a safe and permanent home. The organization’s youth enrichment programs help build personal strengths, interpersonal relationships, family and school functioning, and personal temperament. These programs have a huge impact on our community by engaging children in healthy, structured, social activities and working with them in therapeutic environments to improve their lives.

Those interested in becoming an event sponsor or an Honorary Pirate, should contact the organization for details.

Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services is a non-profit organization located in Berlin, Maryland and has been serving the community since 1975. For more information about services provided by the organization, please telephone the office at (410) 641-4598, or visit the website at www.gowoyo.org.

Bertino to hold town meeting

Worcester County Commissioner Chip Bertino will host a town meeting on Saturday, May 19, at 10 a.m. at the Ocean Pines library. He will discuss issues and developments impacting the Ocean Pines district and the county. Commissioner Bertino’s guests include Health Officer Becky Jones and Assistant School Superintendent Steve Price.

Ms. Jones will discuss county health issues as well as services offered by Worcester County Health Department. “I’m very pleased Becky will join us,” Bertino said. “She is an asset to our county, and I know people will learn much from her.”

Mr. Price will talk about continuing efforts to improve safety in the county’s 14 public schools. “Given the unfortunate events in schools around the country and in Southern Maryland, Steve’s comments will be very helpful to residents who are concerned about ensuring school safety,” Bertino said.

Commissioner Jim Bunting will join the meeting as well.

Letters sent to The Courier for publication consideration must be signed and include



a telephone number where the author can be reached to verify authenticity, if necessary. Letters

are not corrected for spelling or grammar and priority will be given to letters of 300 words or less. Letters must be received by Friday at 5 p.m. They can be e-mailed to:

thecourier@delmarvacourier.com

Secondhand stories

When you're in the throes of childrearing, it's hard sometimes to appreciate how fleeting that time really is, espe-

der how they got so smart.

Now I listen with great interest as my daughter relates stories to me about what her kids have said or done.



It's All About. . .

By **Chip Bertino**

chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

cially when you're trying to ensure homework gets done, baths are taken and school lunches are made. But the time together as a nuclear family goes by quickly and before you realize it, your kids get married and/or move out of the house to live their own lives. And you're left with empty chairs around the dinner table and considerably more free time that was once utilized to take a van full of kids to little league.

My daughter and I talk quite a bit so she tells me about her trials and tribulations raising her two children, my grandchildren. On those days when parenthood is challenging she'll quote back to me something I often said (through clenched teeth) when she and her brothers were younger and driving me to distraction: "These are the happiest years of my life." I look back now, especially when I listen to my daughter talk about parenting her kids, and truth be told, those days really were the happiest years.

No longer are toys strewn around my living room or lights left on in empty rooms. No one is opening and closing the refrigerator door just to see if maybe there's something to snack on. Back in the day those situations frustrated me to no end. But there were also times, many times, that I enjoyed very much like reading a bedtime story or sitting at the dinner table listening to the kids tell their Mom and me about their day. Also, now in the past, are the quiet times when one of the kids would say or do something that would either make me laugh hysterically or make me sit back and won-

der how they got so smart. Another little story I heard second-hand. The other day my granddaughter and grandson came in from playing outside. My granddaughter asked her father if she could read to him. He said yes, so the whole family, mother, father, brother and sister sat on the sofa. While my granddaughter was reading, my grandson, who is three, leaned over to his mother and said, "I peed outside." My daughter asked, as all mothers would, "Why didn't you come inside to do that?" The innocent response: "Because we needed it to make the mud pies." Story reading stopped abruptly as both kids were marched into the bathroom to wash their hands.

These are the types of stories that will be retold through the years at family gatherings. I know this because I'll be the one retelling them. It can be very challenging to really appreciate the time we spend with our kids especially when they are small and running around the house not doing what they've been asked to do, evading bedtime or creating violent wave action in the bathtub. But, there is an opportunity to relive those times, albeit from a changed vantage point, when we have grandchildren. Once we get to that point, all we have to do is enjoy the ride and watch our kids get frazzled dealing with the situations that once drove you nuts.

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● See the Creamers' story at atlanticgeneral.org/creamer



care.givers

Junior golf camp registration opens

Online registration has begun for Ocean Pines Golf Club's popular junior golf camp. Four sessions of the camp, which is open to the public, will be offered throughout the summer.

The four-day camps, designed for ages five through 14, will be held June 25 to 28, July 9 to 12, July 23 to 26 and August 6 through 9 from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

PGA Director of Golf John Malinowski and staff will provide instruction in swing basics, chipping and putting, rules and etiquette, the use of irons and woods and more. Beginner and experienced junior players are encouraged to attend.

"Last year all four sessions sold out, which is a good sign that golf is alive, well and growing in the area. I think

our camps are so popular because they make the sport accessible and fun for all abilities," Malinowski said.



The cost is \$130 per golfer per session, which includes lunch and snacks each day and a goody bag at the end

of camp. Equipment will be provided, or participants may bring their own.

Spaces are limited, and sessions will sell out quickly. Online registration may be completed at OceanPines-Golf.org. For more information, please contact Ocean Pines Golf Club at 410-641-6057.

Carozza to speak at luncheon

The Republican Women of Worcester County will hold their April luncheon meeting on Thursday, April 26 at Harrison's Harbor Watch in Ocean City. The guest speakers will be Mary Pat Hoffman, Doctor of Pharmacy and Clinical Director of Peninsula Alternative Health, and Anthony Darby, CEO, Peninsula Alternative Health. They will give a general overview of the medical cannabis program in Maryland and discuss the various medical conditions that it benefits. Also, Delegate Mary Beth Carozza will give a 2018 Maryland General Assembly Update. Cost of the luncheon is \$20 per person. Doors open at 10:30 a.m. and the meeting begins at 11 a.m. To make your reservation and/or for more information, please contact Ann Lutz at annlutz60@gmail.com or at 410-208-9767.



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EOE



Pounds for Pets - The Stephen Decatur High School Kids Against Animal Abuse and Testing (KAAAT) club hosted its annual pet food drive which collected over 800 pounds of pet food that was donated to both the Worcester County Humane Society and Kenille's Kupboard.

Above: club members **Hallie Edmunds, Emma Stubblebine, Nevaeh Steward, Skylar Crowley**, KAAAT Advisor **Kim Patrick**, and **John Liberto**.

P.E.O. to hold live auction

The local Ocean Pines Chapter AK of P.E.O. is holding an auction on Wednesday, May 2 at 11:30 a.m. at Ocean Pines Community Center in the Assateague Room. P.E.O. is an organization promoting education for women which gives scholarships, grants and low interest loans. All proceeds from this event will go to this organization.

A gourmet luncheon and paddles will be included with a \$10 charge at the door. There will be a live auction, a silent auction, a bake sale, and the sale of \$10 surprise boxes which will be worth at least this amount. Also included will be original artwork by local

artists, household items, toys, furniture and much more. For more information email Bonnie at bonpaints75@gmail.com or Ginger at op9tee@gmail.com or call Ginger at 410-422-6763.

Ravens Roost to meet

The Ravens Roost 58 monthly meeting will be held Tuesday, May 1 at 6:30 p.m. The group will discuss ideas for a parade float for Beach Bash Weekend and the upcoming crab feast fundraiser. All activities take place at the 28th Street Pit & Pub. New members welcome. Dues are \$20 per year.

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It's important to select the right boat

By **Dan Collins**

Water always looks like a lot of fun when you are standing on the shore. If you want to enjoy it by getting wet, go to the beach; but if you want to enjoy it without getting too wet, get a boat.

I became a lover of the sea late in



life. I grew up watching Earl Flynn's swashbuckling antics and Gregory Peck's obsession with a white whale and Clark Gable's exasperation with Captain Bligh and the sinking of the *Titanic* in black and white and, later, in color. But it wasn't until my mid-thirties before I bought my first hole in the water, a day sailer, a sixteen foot trailerable sailboat, with a broken engine. It was great. Nancy and I only sunk it once. (I'll leave that story for another column.)

Boats come in all sizes and for many different purposes. Most are designed to let you stay dry (if you don't sink 'em). Others like jet skis, kayaks, wind surfers, paddleboards should all be experienced while wearing a bathing suit and a life jacket.

The question then is what is the best boat for you? Some posit that the best boat is the one your friend owns and all you have to do is chip in for the beer and gas but that Machiavellian strategy is better discussed in "Psychology Today" rather than in *Knots & Knots*.

Recreational boats can be fast, agile, stable, enduring, air conditioned and gorgeous; but they all have a couple things in common. They all float and they all cost more money to buy and to maintain than you would have guessed.

There is one special class of boats for those whose passion is to spend their entire lives satisfying masochistic desires to perform endless mainte-

nance. They are called wooden boats, again, another topic for "Psychology Today."

Most recreational boats are also designed with specific activities in mind. They can be optimized for trailering, or fishing, or partying, or water skiing, or paddling in shallow water, or living aboard, or sailing around the world, or they may be just destined to be slip queens that are monuments to opulence and venues to vent excess wealth.

Your first question should not be what boat should I buy but rather what do I want to do with a boat? Do you want to explore the shallow waters behind Assateague Island in a kayak? Do you want the exhilaration of a jet ski? Do you want to bay fish in a center console skiff or get a two engine, deep hull beauty and go off shore in search of the coveted white marlin? Or do

you prefer the leisure relaxation and family entertainment of a pontoon?

Available time and money, stage in life and the enthusiasm of your better half will all play determining factors in establishing your selection criteria.

Never underestimate the need for mutual interest. If your significant other does not embrace your passion for boating, you are destined to end up either a fore longed landlubber or a lonely boat owner cruising the dating

web sites.

The next most important criterium is budget, both time and money. There is a quirky human trait that we spend all of our discretionary income on our toys up until the point that it's all gone. In recreational boating, that means buying bigger and bigger boats. Be prepared.

I started my boating experience

please see boat on page 15

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Bay Day to focus on water quality

Maryland Coastal Bays Program and the Ocean Pines Association are launching a collaborative campaign to improve the health of local waterways that hug the inland shores of Ocean Pines.

Eye-opening data from a relatively recent water quality report has positioned the St. Martin River as a top priority in the Ocean Pines community.

In an effort to save the bay, Maryland Coastal Bays Program and the Association are hosting Ocean Pines Bay Day, a free public event, on Sunday, May 20 from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at White Horse Park.

The family event aims to capture the interest of all age groups through hands-on activities, free boat rides and kayaking, presentations and demonstrations.

Conservation partners from Assateague State Park, Pocomoke River State Park, Chincoteague Bay Field Station, Naturally Sunkissed Farm and Delmarva Discovery Center and Museum will be in attendance. They will offer event participants the opportunity to meet animals like birds, fish, goats and snakes.

The National Aquarium will have a 56-foot inflatable sei whale on display, giving visitors access to walk through the life-size replica.

"The beauty of bringing together such unique organizations such as forestry, ocean, and bay-based groups is that our message is still the same - to protect and conserve what we work on, live on and adventure on. In this case, it is Maryland's watersheds," said Liz Vander Clute, education coordinator at Maryland Coastal Bays Program.

Nature-inspired artwork from Worcester County students will also be on display at the event.

The first 300 attendees will receive a tote bag that was hand-painted by students from Cedar Chapel Special School, Berlin Inter-

mediate School, and Pocomoke middle and high schools.

"This watershed celebration will allow us to restate our commitment to the health of the St. Martin River, and bring folks who live, recreate and enjoy this wonderful natural resource together to plan for future management and protection of the



river and bays," said Frank Piorko, executive director of Maryland Coastal Bays Program.

Ocean Pines Bay Day will serve as a catalyst to a year-long campaign to raise awareness and educate residents on environmentally friendly practices that could enhance the quality of local waterways.

"There are so many resources right in our backyards; some just may be more hidden than others," said Vander Clute. "This day will hopefully open people's eyes to what lies right within their reach in Worcester County, and instill a deeper sense of place and responsibility to the Coastal Bay's watershed."

Kiwanis to host wine tasting

Celebrate "Cinco De Mayo" one day early at the Kiwanis Wine Tasting & Auction Festival on Friday May 4, in the Ocean Pines Community Center from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$15. Please call 410-208-6719 for tickets. Proceeds benefit our local youth.



Above: Nancy Fortney, Velda Henry, Sandy Gillis, Barbara Patrick, Ruth Waters, Gayle Widdowson, Emily Schwab, Marian Bickerstaff. Back row: Joe Mitrecic, Ryan Wilde, John Sisson, Katy Durham, Jan Perdue, Rafael Correa. Not pictured: Laura Jenkins and Jamie Albright.

Art League welcomes new board members

The Art League of Ocean City has announced its new Board of Directors for 2018 and welcomes new board members Sandy Gillis, Ryan Wilde, and Ruth Waters.

Sandy Gillis of Ocean City is owner/manager of the Creative Day Spa and founder of the OC Foodie Tour. An art enthusiastic, she performs in theater, mystery groups, and stand-up comedy. For 18 years, Gillis has been the board membership coordinator for the Junior Auxiliary Group of Atlantic General Hospital, where she also volunteers. She has also actively volunteered for PRMC, the United Way, The Cricket Center, The Freeman Stage, International Women's Day, the American Cancer Society, and Locks of Love.

Ryan Wilde of Ocean City is director of operations at B.E.S.T Motels that operates several commercial properties in the area. A graduate of Wake Forest University, he is currently on the board of directors for the Ocean City Hotel-Motel-Restaurant Association, where he also volunteers. Wilde is active in his family's Wilde Charitable Foundation, which has a long-standing history of community support in Berlin and Ocean City. Atlantic General Hospital sits on the property that was Wilde's great uncle Powell's dairy farm.

Ruth Waters of Berlin has been director of sales for the Harrison Group

Resort Hotels and Restaurants for 32 years. A graduate of Rutgers and Villanova Universities, Waters is an active volunteer, donating her time to, among others, the Ocean City Film Festival, the Komen Race for the Cure, and the OC Air Show. She is also currently on the board of the Ocean City Chamber of Commerce and was a former treasurer of the Maryland Tourism Council.

Marian Bickerstaff returns as president of the board, with John Sisson assuming the position of first vice president. Gayle Widdowson is now second vice president; Emily Schwab, recording secretary; and Barbara Patrick, corresponding secretary. Returning to his position is Rafael Correa, treasurer. Also returning to the board are members Jamie Albright, Nancy Fortney, Katy Durham, Laura Jenkins, Velda Henry, Joseph Mitrecic, Jan Perdue, and Judy Tremellen.

The Ocean City Center for the Arts at 502 94th Street is the home of the Art League of Ocean City, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the visual arts in the Ocean City area through education, exhibits, scholarships, programs and community art events. The arts center is supported by memberships, corporate and civic funding, donations and sales of art.

More information is available at 410-524-9433 or www.artleagueofoceancity.org.



Renowned performers join MSO final concerts

The culmination of the Mid-Atlantic Symphony Orchestra's (MSO) season, "Reaching Ever Higher," 20 years of bringing enchantment to audiences from Ocean City to Wye Mills, MD, will occur in April on Maryland's Eastern Shore. On Friday, April 20 at 7 p.m. at Chesapeake College in Wye Mills, MD and on Sunday, April 22, at 3 p.m., with a Pre-Concert Lecture at 2:15 p.m. at the Convention Center in Ocean City, MD, the MSO will present, "Heavenly Music: Mahler and Leon Fleisher." The concerts will feature the "Egmont Overture," Ludwig Van Beethoven "Piano Concerto No. 12 in A Major," Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart "Symphony No. 4," and a work by Gustav Mahler.

Leon Fleisher began playing the piano at the age of 4 and gave his first recital at the age of 6.

After winning the Queen Elizabeth competition in Belgium in 1952, he

achieved international acclaim over the next decade and made many recordings, some considered "definitive." In the mid-1960s, however, Fleisher was stricken with a debilitating condition of his right hand which forced him to withdraw from public performance and concentrate on conducting. In 1970 he was appointed music director of the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra, and in 1973 became associate conductor of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra.

His condition was finally diagnosed as focal dystonia and eventually treated with Botox, with considerable relief. He was able to return to Carnegie Hall for a historic recital in 2003. His disc, "Two Hands," was well received and extensively praised by the critics. In 2007, he was the recipient of a Kennedy Center Honors award and has continued his

long association with many prestigious institutions, including the Tanglewood Music Center, Peabody Conservatory, the Curtis Institute and the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, Canada.

Hailed by *The New York Times* for her "warm, ample voice" and "distinctive earthy coloring," and by *Opera News* for her "sumptuous, mid-weight soprano," Brandie Sutton began her professional career with a solo recital in the province of St. Maarten and many presentations of Handel's "Messiah" around the United States. She later made her debut at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in a solo recital in Washington, DC, and her Manhattan recital debut at Merkin Concert Hall in Lincoln Center.

Sutton has toured and soloed with the internationally acclaimed American Spiritual Ensemble under the direction of Dr. Everett McCorvey and with "Wynton Marsalis and the Jazz" at Lincoln Center Orchestra under the baton of Damien Sneed. Most recently, she was one of Aretha Franklin's picks in her national competition to find the

next opera star to sign to her label. Sutton believes that she was blessed with a gift from God. She continues to work hard to develop and perfect this gift and share it with the world.

The MSO will host two optional post-concert gourmet dinners after the April concerts. The dinner in Wye Mills will be served in the Atrium of the Todd Performing Arts Center at Chesapeake College. The dinner in Ocean City will be served at the Clarion Hotel. The cost for both dinners is in addition to the concert ticket price and reservations are required.

The MSO, whose mission is "to enrich life in the Mid-Atlantic region through the power of live classical music," is supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council, the Talbot County Arts Council, the Worcester County Arts Council, Sussex County, Delaware and the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore, Inc. Tickets to the concerts and post-concert dinners are available online at midatlanticsymphony.org, or by telephone (888) 846-8600. For further information, visit midatlanticsymphony.org.



Leon Fleisher

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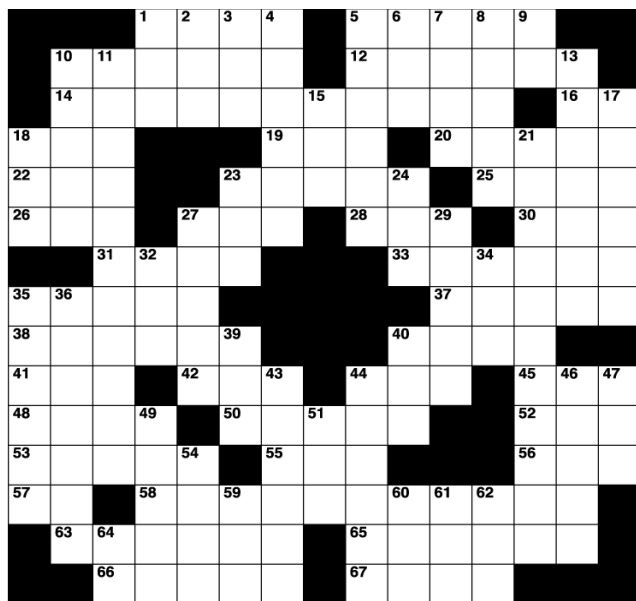
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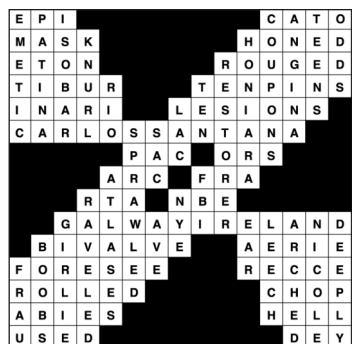


CLUES ACROSS

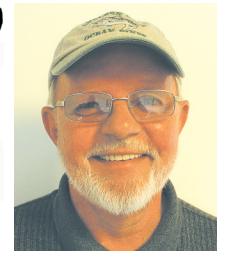
- 1. Maintained possession of
- 5. Dropsy
- 10. Type of music
- 12. One who is deliberately cruel
- 14. 411
- 16. Rhode Island
- 18. Follows sigma
- 19. Baked dessert
- 20. Craftsman
- 22. Austrian river
- 23. Distributed
- 25. Close
- 26. Midway between east and southeast
- 27. Thunderstorm code
- 28. Where wrestlers work
- 30. Away from (prefix)
- 31. Canadian law enforcers
- 33. Shade
- 35. Sir Samuel __, Brit. statesman
- 37. Della __, singer
- 38. Existing in fact
- 40. Tennis matches have at least two
- 41. Reunifying Chinese dynasty
- 42. Not just "play"
- 44. Angry
- 45. Photomultiplier tube
- 48. Slovenly person
- 50. __ and Diu
- 52. Cologne
- 53. What actors deliver
- 55. Campaigned
- 56. Cash machine
- 57. Spanish be
- 58. Animal that eats insects
- 63. Colonists who supported the British
- 65. Loved
- 66. A pair of people who live together
- 67. Work tools

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Kilogram force (abbr.)
- 2. Your consciousness of your own identity
- 3. Score
- 4. A way to modify
- 5. Respect
- 6. Midwife
- 7. Region near the Dead Sea
- 8. __ Gerais: gold-rich state of Brazil
- 9. Equally
- 10. Monetary units
- 11. The mentioning of things one by one
- 13. Traveling entertainers
- 15. Small island
- 17. A way to sing
- 18. __-bo: form of exercise
- 21. "The Bard"
- 23. The best player
- 24. Male parent
- 27. Harm the reputation of
- 29. Allow for the tare of
- 32. Grand __: wine classification
- 34. Soak
- 35. Bother
- 36. Ophthalmologist
- 39. Preceded
- 40. __ Francisco, California
- 43. Touch gently
- 44. Lithuanian given name
- 46. Matched
- 47. Stomach
- 49. Mother of all gods in Scots' Celtic mythology
- 51. Partner to cheese
- 54. Fit of irritation
- 59. Visit
- 60. Suffragist Wells
- 61. Swearing to the truth of a statement
- 62. Old Red Sandstone
- 64. Sacred Hindu syllable



Answers for Apr. 11



Captain Ron's
Fish Tales

By Ron Fisher

Get ready for flounder

Fishing Report: Some bluefish action has been reported around the Rte. 50 Bridge. Also, some short Striper action around the Rte. 90 Bridge. The charter boats are reporting some nice Tautog action but no reports of Flounder as of April 8.

Flounder: New regulations are in place for the 2018 season. You are allowed to keep 4 flounder per day with a minimum size limit of 16.5 inches. The season is from April 1 – December 31.

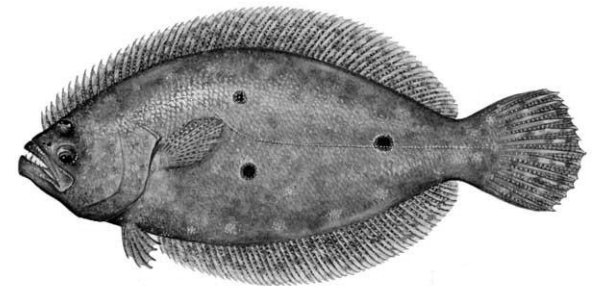
Usually when April arrives I begin to think flounder fishing. However, as of this writing it was snowing this morning and the water temperature is still around 44 degrees with the outside temperature at 41. Although they are calling for a few days of warming the long-range forecast call for more cold weather through the month of April. That being said let's get ready to go fishing.

It takes at least a water temperature of 54 degrees to get them active and they really become active at 65 degrees. In the spring I usually fish the first two hours of the outgoing tide when the warm waters of the marshes flow through the bay.

However, I'm putting the proverbial cart before the horse. Don't forget to re-spool your reel with fresh line this will avoid all the kinks. I usually use 15lb. test monofilament on the spool then a three-way barrel swivel with either a 2 oz. or 3 oz. bank sinker depending on the tide drift and a three to five-foot 20 lb. test leader. At the end of the line I use a plain #1 or #2 wide gap hook without adding any beads or flashy hardware. I personally prefer a conventional spooling reel rather than a spinning reel. I find it easier to control. If you are like some fishermen I know you will want to buy only the most expensive equipment. Being frugal I go for the cheaper brands with plain old monofilament

line and plain old leader material, honestly, I catch as many or more on my rig. If you are a new fisherman any local tackle shop can fit you up with an inexpensive flounder outfit and advise you on bait etc.

What about bait? I like to use frozen shiners hooked through the



eyes with a narrow strip of squid as an attractor when the drift is good and then switch to live killie minnows without the squid as they will add a little action when the drift slows down at the tide change. Purchase these at your local tackle shops. Again, being frugal, when I see frozen shiners & squid at a good price I'll buy several packs and put them in the freezer. However, a sound word of advice. If you want to avoid any conflict at home consult you wife before placing any frozen fish bait in the freezer. I did not. When they were discovered I promptly received a lengthy lesson on proper wrapping techniques beginning with "If it is totally necessary to put that in the freezer.

Just a reminder that it is very important that you know your boat and that you properly prepare your boat for launching. Don't forget to put in the plug! Also be certain your boat has a current registration. Also, you might consider joining the Ocean Pines Angler's Club that meets the 2nd Saturday of each month at the Ocean Pines library. You can find a wealth of information about fishing from many of the men and women experts who are members and through the clubs educational & demonstration programs.

please see flounder on page 15

A quick primer on Maryland's sick and safe law for employers

By **Steven W. Rakow**, Esquire

The General Assembly passed recently the Sick and Safe Law – more accurately titled the Healthy Working Families Act, Labor and Employment Article § 3-1301 *et seq.*, Maryland Code Annotated. The effective date of the Act was February 11, 2018, and every employer in Maryland must comply. The Act requires that all employers (1) with less than fifteen employees provide unpaid sick leave and (2) with fifteen or more employees provide paid sick leave.

Regardless of whether paid or unpaid leave is required, employers must provide either (1) 40 hours at the beginning of each year, or (2) allow employees to accrue up to 40 hours each year at the rate of one sick leave hour per 30 hours worked. For those employers who give the lump sum of 40 hours each year, employees are not allowed to carry anything over to the next year. Conversely, employees allowed to accrue up to 40 hours per year are allowed to carry over those 40 hours; provided that employees not accrue more than 64 hours at any given time. Employers must allow employees to use up to 64 hours per year for any of the following reasons (set forth in the statute):

- To care for or treat the employee's mental or physical illness, injury, or condition;

- To obtain preventive care for the employee or employee's family member;

- To care for a family member with a mental or physical illness, injury, or condition;

- For maternity or paternity leave; or

- For matters related to domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking committed against the employee or the employee's family member and the leave is used for medical, victim, or legal services related to the abuse.

There are several exemptions to the Act. First, the Act does not require any employer to give paid or unpaid leave to anyone under 18. Second, the Act does not require an employer to allow the use of any leave before the employee has worked at least 106 days (15

weeks). Third, no employer is required to pay out accrued or unused sick leave upon termination of the employee; however, if the employee is rehired within 37 weeks, the employer must reinstate the prior leave balance.

Employees may not abuse or use the sick and safe leave for anything other than the stated legal reasons in the Act and employers may enforce their absence policy to thwart abusive use of the sick leave. Employees may request time off if they know they need to take it and provide notice not less than 7 days before the leave begins. Employees unable to provide notice ahead of time – i.e. wake up sick prior to a shift – must do so as soon as they can and must provide proof of the reason for the time off if they miss more than two consecutive shifts. Also, employers may deny the request for use of sick and safe leave if it will cause a disruption to the employer's business.

There are a number of other details in applying this Act to each unique employer's business. Employers must note that the law stated in this article is of a general nature. Each employer is advised to contact legal counsel for their specific situation, business, and employee policies to make sure they are in compliance.

Steven W. Rakow, Esquire, a former assistant state's attorney and retired Marine officer, practices civil litigation, construction law, criminal law, and general practice matters. He can be reached at 410-600-3075, by email at steve@steverakowlaw.com, or through his website www.steverakowlaw.com.

RWWC to host candidate forum

A Worcester County Republican Candidate Forum/Meet & Greet will be held on Tuesday, May 15 at the Ocean City Marlin Club located at 9659 Golf Course Rd. in Ocean City from 5 to 8 p.m. All Republican primary election candidates for state, county and local positions have been invited to participate. The public is invited to attend, free of charge and light refreshments will be provided. Come meet all of Worcester County's Republican candidates in one place. This event is being sponsored by the Republican Women of Worcester County.



NHS donates to Diakonia

The season for giving keeps on going for the Stephen Decatur High School National Honor Society as the group donated several hundred pounds of canned goods to Diakonia.

Above: members **Hallie Edmunds**, **Bryce Kalchthaler**, **Spencer Carbaugh**, **Stephanie Marx**, and **Piper Connors** pose with Diakonia representative **Michelle D'Ascoli** (back) and the several hundreds of pounds of canned goods that the organization collected to help stock Diakonia's shelves for the spring.

Brown to replace Tull at WPS

After an extensive search process, the Worcester Preparatory School (WPS) Board of Trustees has announced Randal Brown as its new Head of School effective July 1, following the retirement of Headmaster Dr. Barry W. Tull. Last June, Tull announced he would retire at the conclusion of the 2018 school year. Tull has served WPS since it was founded 48 years ago, including the last 33 years as Headmaster. Brown will be the school's third Head of School in WPS history. Brown's successful leadership, commitment to excellence, and focus on relationship building, will all benefit WPS in the years to come. To ensure a smooth transition, Tull and Brown have been meeting and will continue to meet in the coming weeks to discuss ongoing and future school matters.



Randal Brown

“Barry's departure will be the culmination of an exemplary career that spans 48 years at Worcester Prep and over 50 years in education. Barry has done an extraordinary job of leading our school for the past 33 years and has set a high bar for his successor. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I want to thank Barry for his decades of service and express our gratitude for all he

has done for the school,” Board of Trustees Chairman Charles Jenkins said. “In many respects, Barry has set the moral and visionary compass that has made Worcester Preparatory School the premier independent school in our region.”

Brown comes to WPS as a seasoned school leader with over 25 years of professional experience in independent schools. He has spent the last decade in senior administration roles, including five years as the Head of School in a small urban setting similar to that of WPS. Brown brings an understanding of WPS values and programs, with a keen eye on the vision for the future.

Brown is currently the Associate Head of School for Advancement at Christchurch School in Christchurch, VA., and previously was the Head of School at All Saints Episcopal School in Tyler, Texas. Brown earned a Bachelor's degree from Rhodes College, and a Masters of Education degree in Higher Education Administration from Vanderbilt University. He is a retired Lieutenant Colonel from the Army National Guard, where he was awarded a Bronze Star Medal for distinguished service during the Iraq Campaign. Brown and his wife Kristen, a dedicated NICU nurse, have a son Collin, a sophomore at Texas A&M University-Maritime Academy, and

*please see **wps** on page 15*

Spring season brings chances for hazardous weather

In 2017 Worcester County was declared StormReady by the National Weather Service (NWS) by meeting national guidelines for public educa-

the upcoming severe storms season.

Following up on Severe Storms Awareness Week, which was April 8-14, 2018, Worcester County Emergency Services (WCES) has teamed up with the NWS, Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) to continue promoting citizen awareness and preparedness.

During spring, Worcester County is at risk for severe thunderstorms, winds, flooding, tornadoes, and hail. All of these hazards typically occur throughout the state;

however, residents can be weather prepared by ensuring that they know how to receive warnings and practice safety tips.

"This is the time of year when we can experience dangerous thunderstorms, flooding, and even tornadoes," WCES Director Fred Webster said. "I

urge everyone to use common sense and follow the advice of local and state officials when severe weather is in the forecast."

The NWS agrees with that assessment. "Maryland frequently experiences severe storms during the spring," NWS Warning Coordination Meteorologist Christopher Strong said. "Damaging winds and flooding are the primary threats, but we also see hailstorms and even tornadoes."

The NWS, MEMA, and Worcester County work closely together and with local emergency managers and other government agencies to identify and monitor severe weather systems, develop preparedness plans and safety information and coordinate the response to these storms.

"Severe Storms Awareness Week is a chance to highlight dangerous weather that often occurs in Maryland," MEMA Executive Director Russ Strickland said. "This is the time to plan for what you or your family should do in case of a severe weather warning. Get to a safe space, then communicate with your neighbors, friends and family to make sure they're aware of the situation and are safe."

Now is the time for residents to prepare for severe storms by taking the following actions:

-Turn around, don't drown! Never enter an area where water is flowing over a road, and you cannot see the pavement.

-If a severe thunderstorm warning is issued or you are experiencing strong winds, get to a sturdy shelter and stay indoors away from windows.

-Tornadoes can form rapidly in the right conditions. If there is a tornado

warning or you see a tornado, quickly get inside and go to the lowest floor possible.

-If you hear thunder, you are close enough to be struck from a fringe lightning strike.

-More than 98% of lightning casualties occur outdoors. Seek shelter indoors or inside your vehicle if possible.

Find additional information on storm preparedness on the WCES website at www.co.worcester.md.us/departments/emergency and the MEMA website at mema.maryland.gov.

Safe sitter courses offered

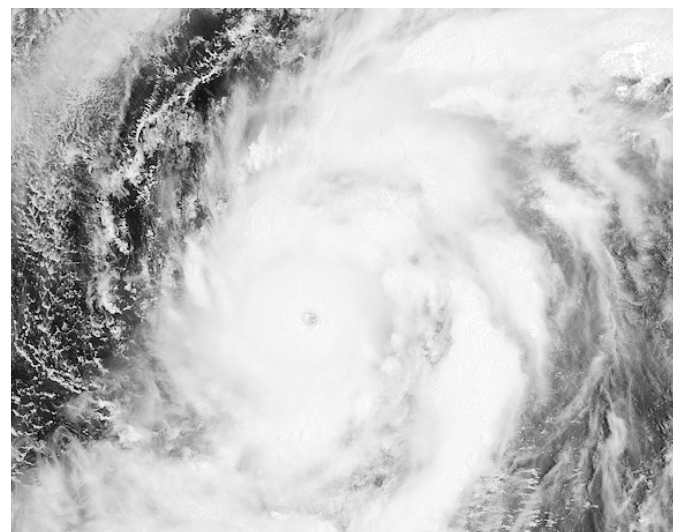
Peninsula Regional Medical Center will offer Safe Sitter courses this summer for young men and women ages 11-14. Safe Sitter is a medically accurate course that covers how to handle emergencies when caring for young children.



rate course that covers how to handle emergencies when caring for young children.

Safe Sitters learn: basic life-saving techniques; safety precautions to prevent accidents; how and when to summon help; and, tips on basic child care

The one-day course will be held on June 22, July 13, July 20 and August 3, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. A fee of \$50 covers the day's program and materials. To register a participant, call 410-543-7781. Maryland law says a child must be at least 13 to babysit.



tion and warnings for severe storms. While it may not quite feel like spring yet, now is the time for residents and business owners to begin preparing for

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<h2 style="margin: 0;">Tide and Sun Chart</h2>				
* tide is for Ocean City Fishing Pier. Add two hours for Isle of Wight tide				
DATE	HIGH TIDE	LOW TIDE	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Thur., Apr. 19	11:17 a.m. 11:42 p.m.	5:05 a.m. 5:08 p.m.	6:19 a.m.	7:40 p.m.
Fri., Apr. 20	12:08 p.m.	5:59 a.m. 6:02 p.m.	6:17 a.m.	7:41 p.m.
Sat., Apr. 21	12:36 a.m. 1:04 p.m.	6:58 a.m. 7:01 p.m.	6:16 a.m.	7:42 p.m.
Sun., Apr. 22	1:35 a.m. 2:06 p.m.	8 a.m. 8:05 p.m.	6:15 a.m.	7:43 p.m.
Mon., Apr. 23	2:41 a.m. 3:15 p.m.	9:02 a.m. 9:11 p.m.	6:13 a.m.	7:44 p.m.
Tues., Apr. 24	3:49 a.m. 4:23 p.m.	10:04 a.m. 10:18 p.m.	6:12 a.m.	7:45 p.m.
Wed., Apr. 25	4:54 a.m. 5:25 p.m.	11:03 a.m. 11:23 p.m.	6:11 a.m.	7:46 p.m.

Striped Bass size regs lowered

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources has submitted revised regulations that aim to reduce the minimum size requirement of striped bass for recreational anglers and charter boats during the summer and fall fishing seasons in the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries from 20 to 19 inches.

The changes, approved by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission in February, are proposed to take effect May 16.

The proposal seeks to reduce the minimum size of striped bass with corresponding conservation-minded changes to gear, including the requirement that non-offset (inline) circle hooks be used when chumming and live-lining, and circle hooks or "J" hooks (of any gap width or size) when fishing with bait such as crabs, fish and worms.

In addition, the proposed regulations would sunset after two years, which will allow the department to determine if the new conservation actions were preventing fish mortality as intended. The department will have new stock assessment data available at

that time.

"After further consultations with anglers, charter boat captains, legislators and watermen, we believe the revised regulations strike the right balance between conservation and recreation," Maryland Natural Resources Secretary Mark Belton said. "By lowering the minimum size of striped bass with additional conservation requirements, we will reduce striped bass mortality in the bay, and increase recreational fishing opportunities and success. These regulations are a win-win for the species and sport."

please see regs on page 14

**The LORD will surely save me
So we will play my songs on
stringed instruments** Isaiah 38:20



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Chemical changes - During Science in Brittany Thompson's classroom, students conducted an experiment called "Elephant Toothpaste." During this experiment, students witnessed a chemical change occurring by combining various substances together. Pictured from left to right: **Paige McAdams, Amber Stant, Sarah Nottingham, Derrick Seitz and Ethan Wright.**

Bennington, O'Hare Team take top honors

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices PenFed Realty announced the 2017 top sales associates in their Ocean Pines office.

Top honors went to Debbie Bennington and the O'Hare Team who received the Chairman's Circle Gold award; Cindy Poremski and Cindy Welsh who received the President's Circle Award; Mickey Lobb, Michael Rutledge and Sally Todd Stout who received the Leading Edge Society Award; Stephanie Bray, Judy Froman, Sandy Galloway, Jim Prete and John

Talbott who received the Honor Society Award.

"We're extremely proud of our top-performing sales professionals and what they've accomplished, both for their clients and for themselves" said Kevin Wiles, President & CEO, Mid-Atlantic region. "These awards are a testament to the hard work they put in and their dedication to their clients. We are committed to supporting them as they continue their pursuit of excellence."



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4:30PM 7:30PM

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Donation \$15/per person

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Proceeds go to the Kiwanis Scholarship Fund



Successful drive - Ocean City Elementary School (OCES) recently held its Donation Drive for the Worcester County Humane Society. OCES families donated many boxes of dog and cat toys, cat beds, kitty litter, peanut butter, paper towels, dish soap, cat treats, dog and cat food and other pet supplies. They also collected \$222.43 in donations for the Humane Society.

Pictured are fourth grade students in Wendy Macrides' class. Top row: **Miazy Jerns, Trey Strickler, Cooper Fowle and Leah Keithley**
Bottom row: **Giovanni Gregg, Cullen Wilkins and Brooke Cathell.**

regs
from page 13

The new regulations on gear, season and size were submitted to the Maryland General Assembly Joint Committee on Administrative, Executive and Legislative Review. The department awaits legislative review and approval of the



regulations before the start of the summer fishing season. If the committee does not approve the regulations, the department has proposed identical regulations, which would likely begin in July 2018.

"The new regulations seek to ad-

dress the shared concerns of anglers, charters and conservationists who report a high number of sublethal rockfish being caught, discarded yet dying in the bay due to deep or gut hooking," Belton said. "Through the use of studied and proven circle hooks, we hope to reduce mortality and produce healthier stocks."

In anticipation of the proposed changes, either in May or July 2018, the department has begun a proactive education and public relations campaign to ensure that anglers, bait-and-tackle shops and charter boat captains understand the new minimum size and gear requirements so they can properly prepare for the start of the season. The Natural Resources Police have also been briefed on the changes so as to provide for a smooth transition this coming season.

Service DIRECTORY

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wps
from page 12

two daughters, Amelia, a junior, and Mary Esten a freshman, both at Christchurch School.

An educator at heart, Brown has been recognized as Teacher of the Year, and spent time advancing his craft as a history teacher at Isidore Newman School in New Orleans where he became passionate about teaching students how to write. Working at nationally recognized schools has provided Brown an opportunity to gain an understanding of successful college prep curricula, and how best to innovate current programs to support students' long-term success. He looks forward to bringing that experience to Worcester Prep. "I am excited about joining the WPS community and all that it has to offer. During my visit to campus, I met with truly extraordinary faculty, staff, students and parents. I was impressed with the facilities and the palpable enthusiasm everyone has for the school and its mission. I look forward to meeting everyone, listening to the community, and being a part of the WPS family," Brown said.

"It is an honor to follow such an extraordinary, long serving and capable head as Dr. Barry Tull. Working with you all, I look forward to building on his many successes," Brown said. "After reflecting on my visit to your beautiful campus, and my many great meetings, I realized how fortunate I would be to join such a vibrant and talented school community. Kristen and I were both so impressed with everyone we met. The faculty, staff, students, parents and board members all showed such a passion for the school, and have

clearly accomplished so much."

"After working with Randal the past few months, I have been so impressed with his extensive knowledge and background that he will bring to Worcester Preparatory School. Given his insightful vision and strong leadership skills, I envision a bright future for the WPS community," said Headmaster Dr. Barry Tull. In summing up his 48 years at WPS, Tull added, "I have been so fortunate to have been part of this vibrant, dynamic and energetic community since its founding in 1970. The enthusiasm everyone has for our school's mission and core values has helped WPS make enormous progress in the breadth and quality of education we offer our students. Our Advanced Placement program has become a hallmark of our rigorous academic course of study as our emphasis on character development has promoted the values that will serve our students well throughout their lives. It is difficult to imagine my life without the daily joy and privilege of teaching young people, standing on the sidelines, applauding student productions and watching the amazing intellectual, physical, artistic and personal growth of WPS students as scholars, athletes, artists and citizens. Since my earliest days as Headmaster, I have sought to fulfill a job description provided to me by a Kindergarten student. When asked by her teacher what the Headmaster's job was, the girl raised her hand and answered with the profound wisdom only a child can impart: 'He takes care of the school.' During the past three decades, it has been my joy to aspire to this responsibility."

flounder
from page 10

Also, if you don't have a boat it is likely someone will offer to take you fishing.

Where to go? You will find most early season flounder fishermen north of the Rt. 90 Bridge fishing in five to six feet of water as the flounder will seek the warmth of the shallower water. However, many fishermen do well in the flats at the Thorofare and in the South Bay behind Assateague Island around the Airport and Duck Blinds. I would

suggest moving around. If the water is warmer you may even do well along the ledges at the inlet or in the deeper holes at the Rt. 50 Bridge. Keep your rig on the bottom and drift with the tide. When you feel a bite do not try to set the hook immediately. Let out a little line and give the flounder time to eat the bait. Then slowly raise the tip of your rod and set the hook. If you pull early I'll guarantee you will miss most fish.

Good luck this spring and remember to take a kid fishing.



Books, books, and books, oh my

Over 3,000 books were collected during the Stephen Decatur High School National English Honor Society annual spring book drive. After the books are categorized by reading level and genres, they will be donated to local schools, hospitals, shelters, and churches.

Pictured above: Stephen Decatur High School National English Honor Society members begin the process of sorting books collected during the annual spring book drive. Back row: **Anna Kiesewetter, Sarah Bianca, Madilyn Ortega, Gavin Esch, NEHS President Kyla Taylor, Caroline Kurtz.** Front row: **Dori Krasner, Corinne Krasner, Tara Fischer, Eunice Huesca and Mahreen Ishfaq.**

auditions
from page 3

High School from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

The talent search is open to all ages but applicants must have some "roots" in Worcester County (either once lived here, or worked here or have family ties in Worcester County). Gwen Lehman, retired theater instructor at SDHS will direct The Launch II. Performers are encouraged to loosely tie this year's theme "Rhythm of the Tides" into their performance if possible (although it is not critical to include).

Please call Gwen Lehman for further information or for an audition application 443-735-4502 or visit www.wced.foundation or contact patti@peckmiller.com.

officer
from page 1

is not afraid to step up when the situation demands it. It is officers like Pfc. Richardson who contribute to making Ocean Pines the safest community, for its size, in the State of Maryland."

Ocean Pines has a state certified, full service police agency that operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The department protects life and property, preserves the peace and enforces all state and county laws, including traffic laws, in a fair and impartial manner. All sworn officers attend 23 weeks of intensive police training at the Eastern Shore Criminal Justice Academy in Salisbury, Md. Upon graduation, all officers are certified by the Maryland Police Training Commission.

boats
from page 7

during the energy crisis of the early 1970s. Fuel prices were outrageous which resulted in a surge in sail boat interest and over 15 years we went from a used 16-footer to a 22 to a 27 and finally to a beautiful new 31 foot sail boat.

Eventually time and money got in the way and we did not return to boating until we retired to Ocean Pines and bought a fast 20-foot outboard. However, sitting in one place and hydroplaning at 25 knots did not resonate with our biorhythms so, after a few years, we traded it in on a more low-keyed pontoon boat.

I suggest that you start small, start used. Figure out how much you like boating and what you want to do on the water. Then, enjoy it until you run out of money, run out of time, run out of enthusiasm.

Dan can be reached for comment at dancollins.oceanpines@gmail.com

Endoscopy Center celebrates anniversary

The staff at Atlantic General Endoscopy Center has much to celebrate. For 10 years, the center has been providing early cancer detection services and helping save lives. Since opening in March of 2008, the center has performed more than 36,000 cases to diagnose and treat the digestive and prostate health issues of area residents and visitors, all while caring for patients with a level of dignity and respect that has consistently earned satisfaction scores of 99 percent over the years.

This can be attributed to the center's experienced and dedicated medical staff and clinical team. Each of the registered nurses on staff is bachelor's degree-prepared, which has been linked with a facility's ability to offer high quality care and foster better patient outcomes, and the endoscopy technicians are certified by the Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates. The center's director is a past recipient of EndoNurse Magazine's Most Valuable Professional in Endoscopy Award, and three members of the nursing staff have held leadership roles in professional nursing organizations.

The nurturing mindset shared by the staff can also be credited for the center's success. When not actively caring for patients, they raise money for cancer awareness and research throughout the year. The center's team for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, Atlantic Endoscopy Polypeers, has been the top fundraising team for North Worcester County for 10 consecutive years.

"It has been such an honor to be a part of this organization. Being involved with the planning, opening and operation of this center has been the highlight of my nursing career," said Terry Moore, RN, director of Atlantic General Endoscopy Center. "The expertise, dedication and hard work of the entire team is the reason for our success and superior patient satisfaction."

The Atlantic General Endoscopy Center staff will be available during Atlantic General Hospital's 25th Anniversary Community Celebration on Tuesday, May 8 to provide cancer screening recommendations, answer questions and discuss future plans for the center.



At right: The Atlantic General Endoscopy Center team celebrates 10 years of patient care. (Sitting, left to right) **Ginny Simpkins, RN**; **Laura Marra**, endoscopy tech; **Martha Worthington, RN**; and **Nancy Lamelas**, endoscopy tech. (Standing left to right) **Stephanie Harrold**, surgical tech; **Terry Moore, RN**, director; **Wendi McDonough, RN**; **Sue Donaldson, RN**; **Tammy Simington**, patient services representative; **Kelly Williams**, patient services representative; **Linda Rankin**, endoscopy support tech; **Kathy Cioccio, RN**; and **Connie Collins, RN**.



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